

REMARKS

Formal Matters

Claims 3-11, 14-20 and claims 22-59 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth above.

Claims 3-11, 14-20 and 22-42 are withdrawn.

New claims 43-59 correspond to the subject matter of Group I of the Restriction Requirement mailed November 26, 2003. Applicants previously elected the subject matter of Group I, corresponding to claims 1, 2, 12, 13 and 21 in a Response to the Restriction Requirement, mailed February 26, 2003. In this Preliminary Amendment, the Applicants have merely replaced claims 1, 2, 12, 13 and 21 with new claims 43-59 corresponding to the same subject matter.

Support for new claims 43-59 is found in the claims as originally filed, and throughout the specification, for example in paragraph 58 on page 17, paragraph 45 on page 12, paragraph 49 on page 13 and paragraph 170 on page 56. The claims introduce no new matter and their entry by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Claim 1, 2, 12, 13 and 21 are canceled without prejudice to renewal, without intent to acquiesce to any rejection, and without intent to surrender any subject matter encompassed by the canceled claims.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order No. 2300-1663.

Respectfully submitted,
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

Date: March 11, 2003

By: 

James S. Keddie, Ph.D.
Registration No. 48,920

BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP
200 Middlefield Road, Suite 200
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Telephone: (650) 327-3400
Facsimile: (650) 327-3231

F:\DOCUMENT\2300\1663\Preliminary amendment.doc